

The National Centers of Excellence In Women's Health Model Paradigm

The National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health (CoEs) were established in 1996 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health. Their mandate is to establish and evaluate a new model health care system that unites women's health research, medical training, clinical care, public health education, community outreach, and the promotion of women in academic medicine (see Figure 1). Their goal is to improve the health status of diverse women across the life span.

The CoEs are affiliated with 14 different Schools within 23 academic institutions (see Figure 2). This pamphlet highlights the organizational structures of the CoEs as well as displays their relationships and collaborations/partnerships to other Schools within their respective universities.

**Figure 1. A Diagram of the National Model for the
National Centers of Excellence in Women's Health**

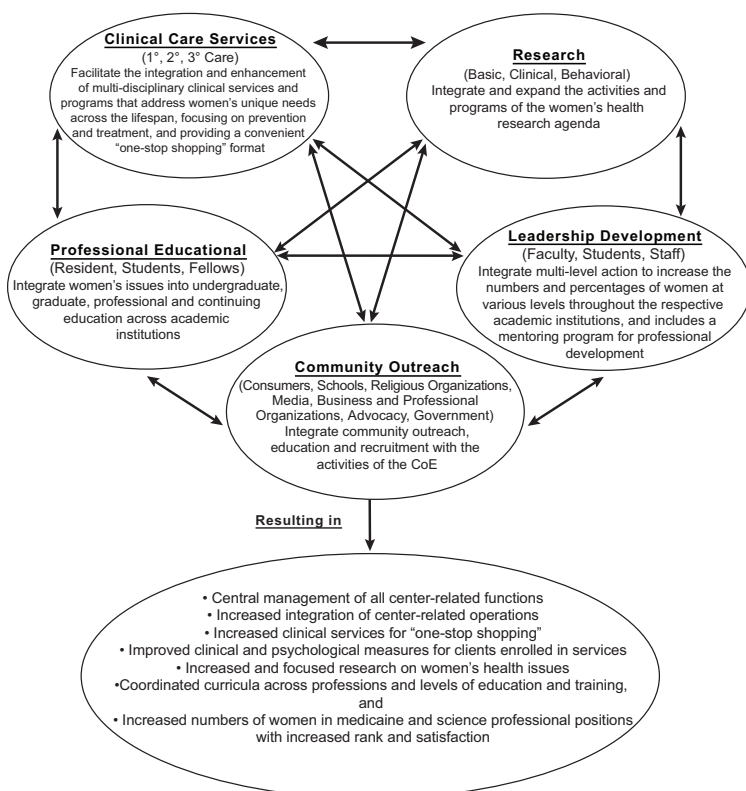


Figure 2. CoE School and CoE Region VIII Demo Affiliation

School of														
CoE	Medicine	Public Health	Nursing	Dentistry	Pharmacy	Arts & Sciences	Management / Business	Social Work	Allied/ Related Health	Engineering	Agriculture & Sciences	Informatics & New Media Science	Law	Veterinary Medicine
U. of Arizona	X	X	X		X									
Boston U	X	X												
Brown Univ	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
UCLA	X	X	X			X	X						X	
UCSF	X		X	X	X									
Drexel Univ	X	X	X			X	X							
Harvard	X	X		X										
UIC	X	X	X	X	X	X			X					
Indiana Univ	X		X	X								X		
Magee	X		X	X	X									
U. of Minnesota	X	X	X	X	X						X		X	X
U. of Mississippi	X		X	X	X				X					
U. of Missouri	X		X	X	X									
U. of North Dakota	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	

Figure 2. CoE School and CoE Region VIII Demo Affiliation

CoE	Medicine	Public Health	Nursing	Dentistry	Pharmacy	Arts & Sciences	Management / Business	Social Work	Allied/ Related Health	Engineering	Agriculture & Sciences	Informatics & New Media Science	Law	Veterinary Medicine
Oregon Health & Sciences U.	X		X	X	X									
U. of Puerto Rico	X	X	X	X	X				X					
U. of South Dakota	X		X	X	X									
U. of Texas Health Sciences Center	X		X	X					X					
Tulane/ Xavier Univ	X	X			X	X		X						
U. of Utah	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
VCU	X	X	X	X	X			X	X					
West Virginia University	X		X	X	X									
U. of Wisconsin	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X			X

University of Arizona

The mission of the University of Arizona National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (UA CoE) is to improve the health and promote wellness of all women throughout the life-cycle, especially those that are underserved.

The UA CoE characterizes women's health as comprehensive and contextual, includes biomedical and socio-cultural perspectives, encompasses normal and disease states that affect women throughout their lives, and acknowledges the role of family and social constructs. In our model, women are viewed within the context of family, society and culture, and as the gateway to their families.

The UA CoE has a multidisciplinary team of health care providers, researchers, administrators and staff committed to improving women's health. Objectives are accomplished through integration and evaluation of the following five cores:

Clinical care that is comprehensive and emphasizes prevention and early detection of diseases, disorders, and conditions;

Research on women's health and the ways that women and men differ in health and disease status;

Outreach to communities to promote health, prevent disease and reduce health disparities;

Education by integrating women's health, sex-based biology, and gender medicine into the medical school curriculum; and

Leadership for women and girls.

CoE Clinical Core

Two multidisciplinary CoE clinics are anchored by family medicine and obstetrics and gynecology. A goal of the UA CoE clinical core is to provide appropriate care for women in the setting that delivers the best clinical outcomes. Thus, there is seamless referral to oncology (an NCI designated Cancer Center of Excellence), rheumatology (Arthritis Center of Excellence), cardiology (Sarver Heart Center), internal medicine, urogynecology, breast imaging, and integrative medicine. The CoE has developed a form to collect comprehensive patient information. In addition, the CoE provides patient education classes, resources and materials.

CoE Research Core

The UA CoE goals are to stimulate new research in women's health, sex-based biology and gender-specific medicine and help faculty become independent investigators. The UA CoE promotes collaboration among multidisciplinary experts. Strong collaborators are the Southwest Institute for

Research on Women, Center for Physical Activity and Nutrition, and the Institute for Children, Youth and Families. The UA CoE has been working with the Sarver Heart Center to establish an endowed chair in research on women and heart disease.

CoE Outreach Core

The CoE Outreach Core is working directly with the University of Arizona life and wellness program and the wellness coordinators of several large organizations. The CoE sponsors a seminar series for the public called "Conversations with Women about their Health." The CoE has booths at numerous fairs and provides a speakers bureau, which is becoming increasingly in demand. There is a community partners network which, through the CoE, connects organizations and women throughout the city.

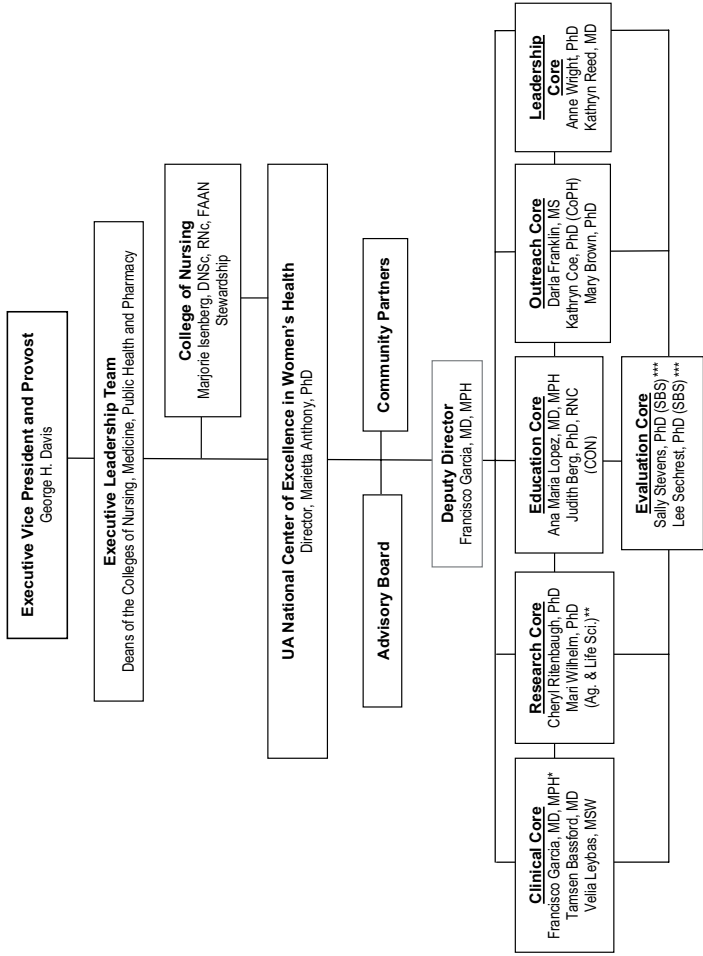
CoE Education Core

The UA CoE Education Core was asked to develop a thread to weave through the College of Medicine for all four years. This Gender Specific Medicine thread presents the latest evidence-based information on women's health, sex-based biology, and gender specific medicine in the curriculum.

CoE Leadership Core

Results of the UA project, Generating Respect for All in a Climate of academic Excellence {GRACE} (Wright et. al, 2003) provide baseline information regarding the status of women at the College of Medicine (COM) in 2000, against which progress can be objectively measured. Salary equity continues to be monitored in the COM. Other goals include promoting education and leadership of women and girls through collaboration with the Neighborhood Coordinator/Promotoras del Barrio, Latina Institute and Women in Science and Engineering programs.

The University of Arizona
National Center of Excellence in Women's Health

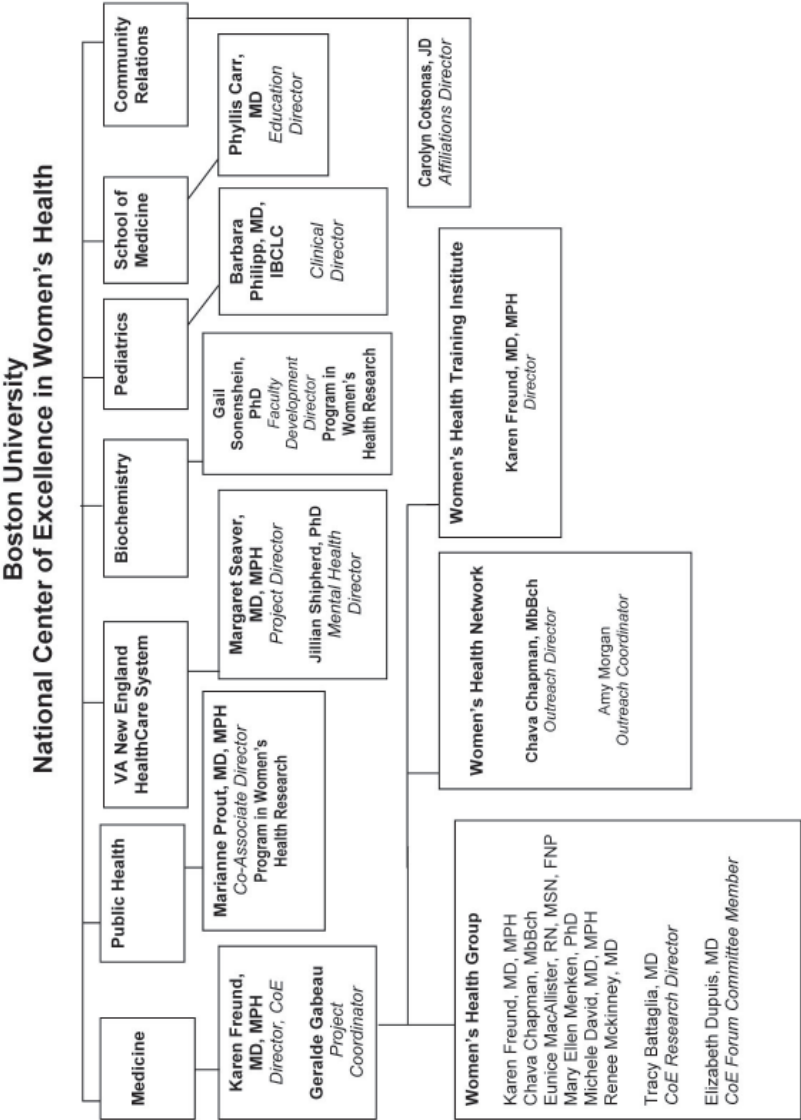


* College of Medicine except where noted.
** Ag & Life Sci. = College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
*** SBS = College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Boston University

The Boston University Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoE) provides a highly unique coalition of state-of-the-art women's services across several institutions to address women's health issues with a focus on serving minority and low-income women. The CoE has a relationship with four academic health care institutions: Boston University School of Medicine, the School of Public Health, and BU's major academic hospital affiliates, Boston Medical Center, and the VA Boston Healthcare System.

These collaborations create the opportunity to more effectively address the delivery of comprehensive and integrated women's health services, which are provided throughout three health care systems, the Boston Medical Center, the VA Boston Health Care System and Quincy Medical Center. Research goals are accomplished by developing collaborations with an established multidisciplinary research program. Medical education and faculty development goals are addressed by working with the School of Medicine which reaches the entire spectrum of medical school training, residency training, post-residency fellowship programs, and post-graduate continuing education. Working with the schools of Public Health and Medicine provides a stronger emphasis on outreach to women, especially low-income, non-English speaking women and/or racial or ethnic minorities.



Brown University

The mission of the Brown University/Women & Infants Hospital National Center of Excellence in Women's Health is to foster participation and contributions from the greater community to improve health and health care for all women.

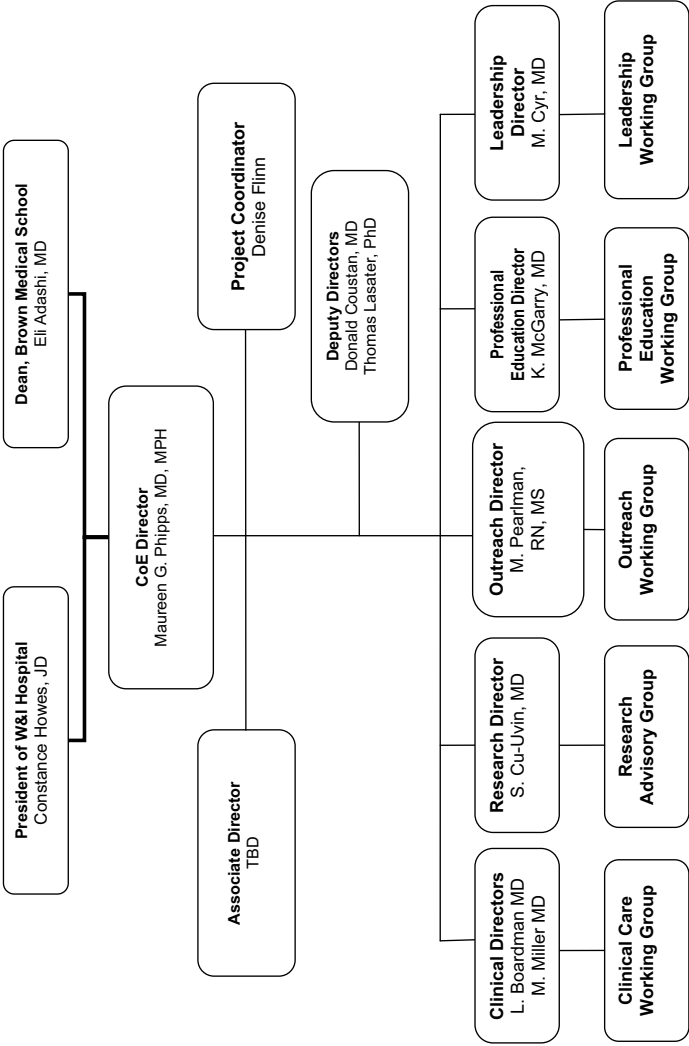
This mission will be accomplished through promoting equal representation of women from all backgrounds in leadership positions, enhancing professional education, expanding innovative research, educating the community and providing a model of clinical care for all women.

The Brown University/Women & Infants Hospital National Center of Excellence exists to raise standards for women in academic medicine. This unique model of intervention, in which the institutions are committed to collaboration and progress, focuses on identifying the barriers to success and making change for women in the designated key areas; Clinical Care, Outreach, Professional Education, Research and Leadership.

The efforts of the Center of Excellence are steered by various multidisciplinary working groups which have set forth goals and objectives to be achieved to sustain the designation and move forward the mission of the Center of Excellence. The working groups collaborate with different departments within the hospital and medical school to promote its women's health initiatives.

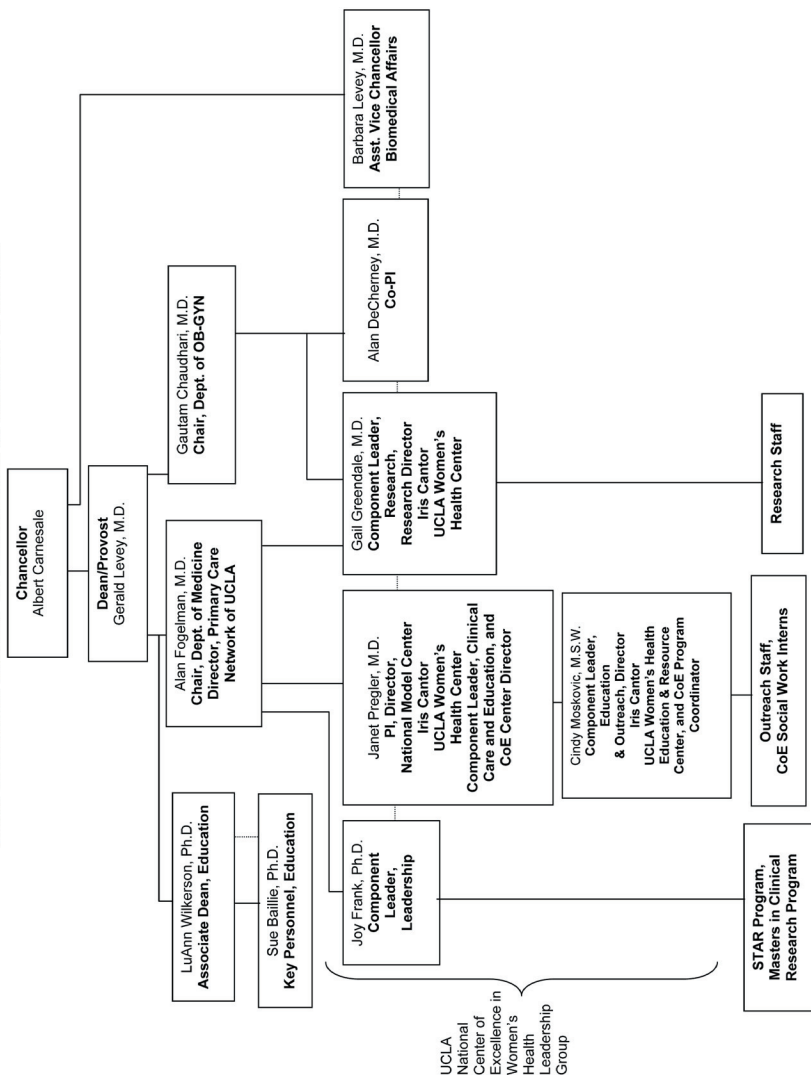
In order to make a difference, the Center of Excellence and its working group members identify the unique issues confronting women's health outcomes and women in the medical field and strategically plan to work within existing systems to make change to improve women's health and women's health leadership.

**Brown University/Women & Infants
National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health**



University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)

The UCLA National Center of Excellence in Women's Health resides within the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. The UCLA CoE collaborates on clinical programs with the UCLA School of Nursing on a Nurse Midwife training program. Undergraduate, graduate, and practicing clinician educational programs also include collaboration with the UCLA School of Nursing. From a research perspective, the UCLA CoE collaborates with both the UCLA School of Public Health and the UCLA School of Nursing. UCLA CoE Leadership Initiatives include campus-wide collaborations with faculty from the Schools of Law, the Anderson School of Management, and the College of Letters and Science.

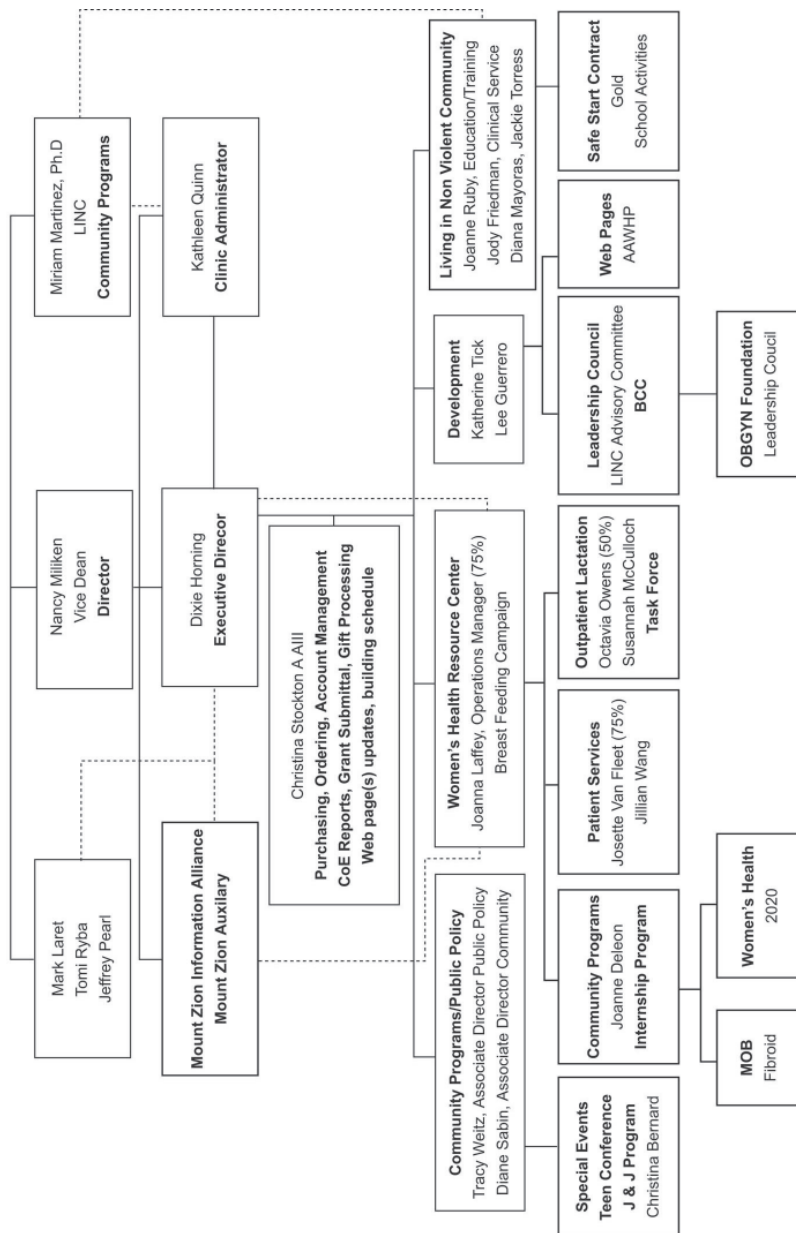


University of California at San Francisco (UCSF)

The UCSF Center of Excellence is academically housed within the School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences.

In the area of clinical care, education, leadership and community, the Center has collaborative relationships with the School of Medicine with departments such as primary care, mental health, internal medicine, radiology and pediatrics and with the Schools of Nursing, Pharmacy and Dentistry.

In the area of research, the Center has collaborative relationships with several centers located in the schools of medicine (Women's Health Clinical Research Center, SOM, Department of Internal Medicine, Women's HIV Studies), Center for Reproductive Health Research and Policy, Medical Effectiveness Research Center for Diverse Populations, Center for Reproductive Sciences (SOM, OBGYN/RS Departments) and the School of Nursing, National Center for Lesbian Health Research.



Drexel University

The Drexel CoE is administratively located within the College of Medicine under the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership. The CoE faculty and staff work in collaboration with a number of other schools, departments and institutes across the University. These collaborations include:

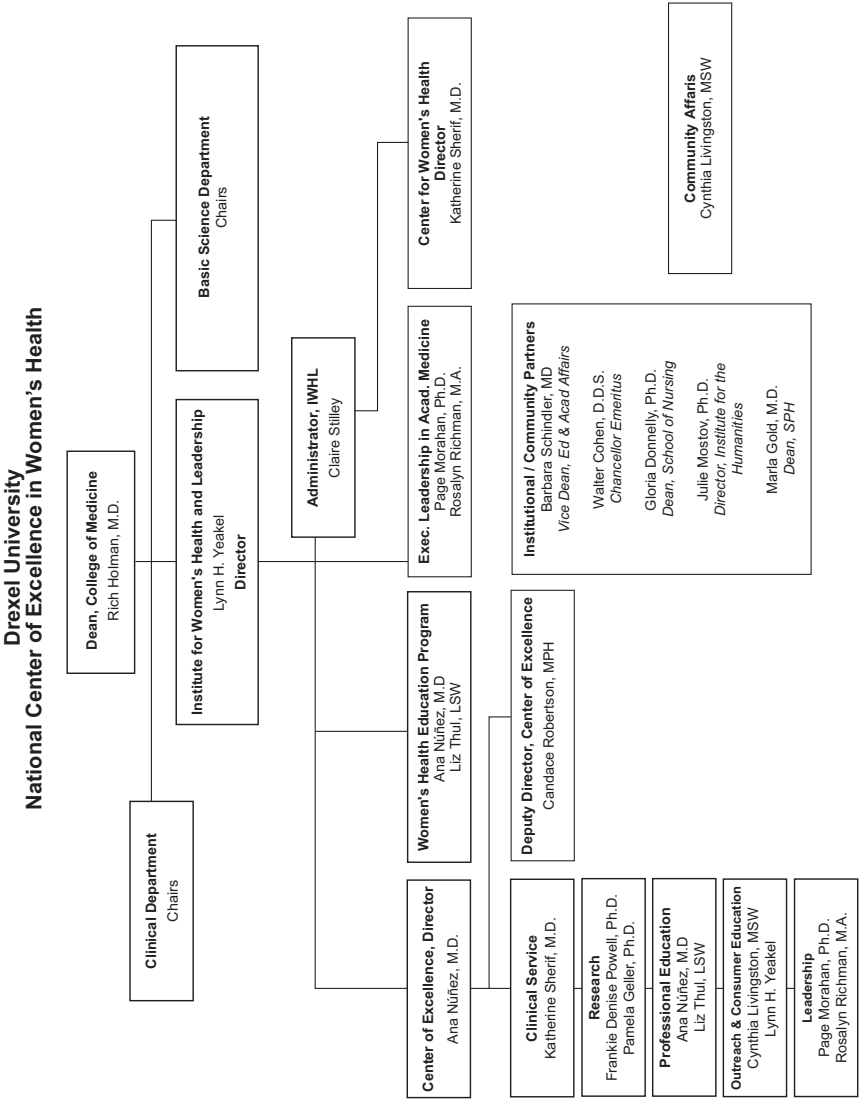
- School of Nursing faculty members collaborating with WHEP's Heart Truth Health Profession Educational contract awarded by DHHS, OWH;
- College of Nursing and Health Professions Physician Assistant Program student lectures, clinical preceptorships and faculty collaborations;
- School of Public Health faculty collaborations;
- School of Public Health graduate student mentorship and involvement in research projects;
- DU Office of Student Life joint development and implementation of student support programs;
- Medical Science graduate program students mentorship and involvement in WHEP research projects;
- College of Arts and Sciences, Institute for Humanities faculty joint projects;
- St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and their Pediatric HIV program faculty and joint outreach program development;
- Various departments and schools' faculty collaboration as invited guest speakers for the women's health seminar series offered by WHEP;
- Campus Community Consortium to reduce violent crimes against women; and
- International women's health programming.

The CoE's Community Outreach activities are a collaborative effort with the University's Office of Community Relations, which works closely with a Community Relations Task Force. The task force includes representatives from the School of Public Health, the College of Medicine, the College of Nursing and Health Professions, and the provost's office.

The Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) program for Women annually seeks candidates from all of the departments within the medical school faculty. ELAM is exploring new opportunities for collaboration with Drexel's LeBow College of Business.

Research Advancement Synergies (examples):

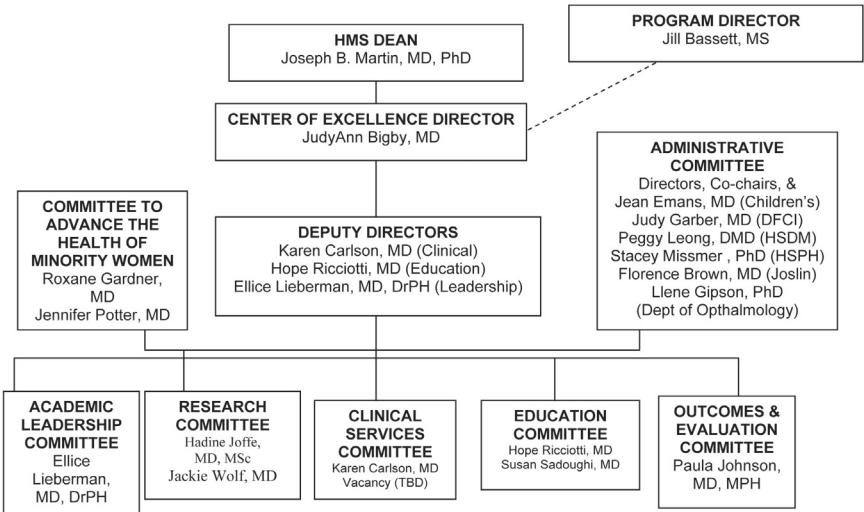
- Autoimmunity and infectious disease (HIV/STD)
- BRCA1 and Sp1: Partners in the Cellular Response to DNA Damage
- Gender Differences in Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms and Quality of Life after Transplant
- Predicting psychological distress following reproductive loss
- Bioengineering tech and medical interface



Harvard University National Center of Excellence in Women's Health

Harvard Medical School's Center of Excellence in Women's Health is composed of partnerships between Harvard Medical School and many of its affiliated institutions as follows: Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, the Harvard School of Dental Medicine, the Harvard School of Public Health, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Joslin Diabetes Center, Children's Hospital Boston, and the Women's Eye Health Task Force through Harvard Medical School's Department of Ophthalmology.

The multi-institutional nature of the HMS CoE provides an opportunity to develop linkages among a broad range of academically, clinically, and demographically diverse women's health experts in order to create a strong women's health community within Harvard Medical School's complex structure. Approximately 50-60 faculty volunteers from HMS and partner institutions join together with representative HMS students and Harvard hospital residents to serve as members of the CoE's core committees.



University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)

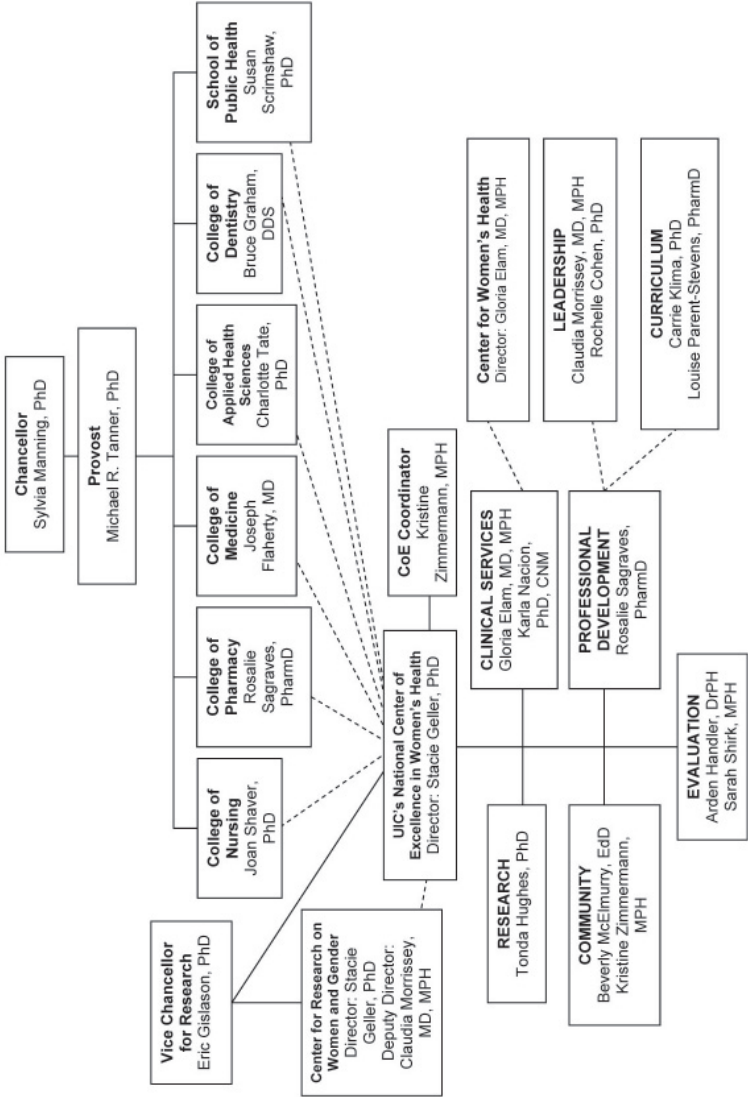
UIC's National Center of Excellence is housed and administered in the Center for Research on Women and Gender (CRWG), a campus-wide research center, enabling collaboration among departments and colleges across the university. Because the goals and activities of the CoE are so broad and affect so many constituencies, the CoE Center Director reports to the Vice Chancellor for Research. The UIC CoE is unique in that it sits outside all of the health colleges and is therefore able to forge strong collaborative relationships across all six health science colleges. The CoE Director also serves as Director of CRWG and in this capacity is able to build relationships across the campus to include Liberal Arts and Sciences as well as Engineering.

The Director of the CoE meets with the UIC Health Sciences Council yearly to maintain information flow at a high administrative level. The Health Sciences Council includes the Provost, the Vice Chancellor for Research, the Executive Director of the University Hospital, the deans of the Colleges of Nursing, Pharmacy, Medicine, Dentistry, Public Health, and Allied Health Sciences.

The CoE's ties with the Colleges of Nursing, Pharmacy, and Medicine are particularly strong. The Center Director holds a faculty appointment in the College of Medicine and the School of Public Health; other College of Medicine faculty members are involved with the Clinical Services and Professional Development Cores. The Director of the Professional Development Core is a faculty member in the College of Pharmacy and the Director of the Research Core and the Co-director of the Community Partnership Core are both faculty members in the College of Nursing. The Director of the Evaluation Working Group is a faculty member in the School of Public Health. Several other faculty members from the Colleges of Pharmacy, Nursing, Medicine, and Dentistry are also involved in CoE projects and activities.

The CoE holds monthly meetings of all faculty and staff involved in CoE activities to maintain ongoing collaboration and partnerships. There is also a yearly steering committee meeting that is open to anyone interested in learning more about or participating in CoE activities.

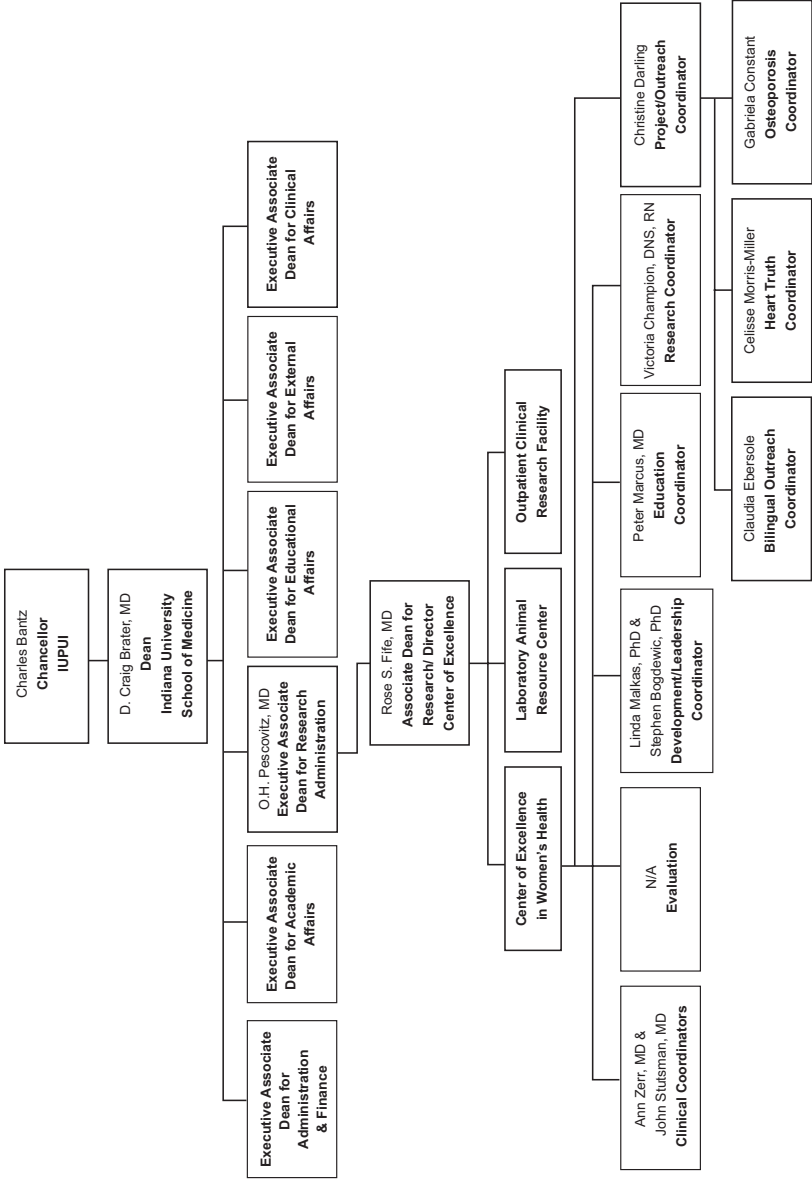
University of Illinois at Chicago
National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health



Indiana University

The IU CoE is based in the Indiana University School of Medicine but has extensive collaborations with the IU Schools of Nursing, Informatics and New Media Science, Allied Health, Law, Business, Engineering, and Arts and Sciences. Collaborations also exist within the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis campus. In addition, one of the Assistant Directors is a faculty member in the IU School of Nursing. Within the School of Medicine, faculty members in the Departments of Medicine, Pediatrics, Family Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Psychiatry, Dermatology, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Surgery, and Rehabilitation Medicine participate in the CoE.

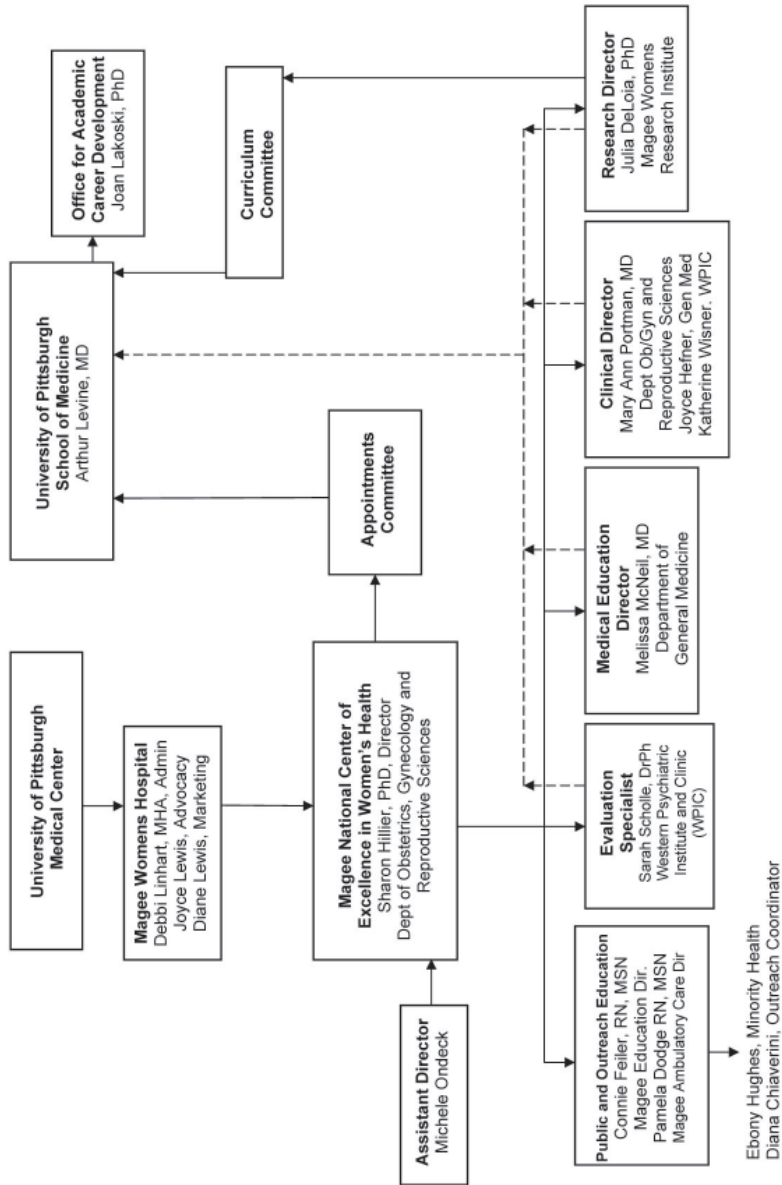
Indiana University - Center of Excellence in Women's Health



Magee Womens Hospital

The directors of the Magee CoE draw on their individual and collective relationships with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine to accomplish the goals of the CoE. The Center Director of the CoE and professor of Obstetric, Gynecology and Reproductive Health leads the CoE strategic planning process. The CoE Professional Education Director and professor of General Medicine, is a member of the Task Force on Women in Academic Medicine, Office for Academic Career Development for the Health Sciences. The CoE research director is a member of the curriculum committee of the School of Medicine. The CoE Administrative Director is vice president for Strategic Development at Magee-Womens Hospital of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Each of these roles impacts the leadership abilities of the Center of Excellence.

Magee Womens Hospital National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health



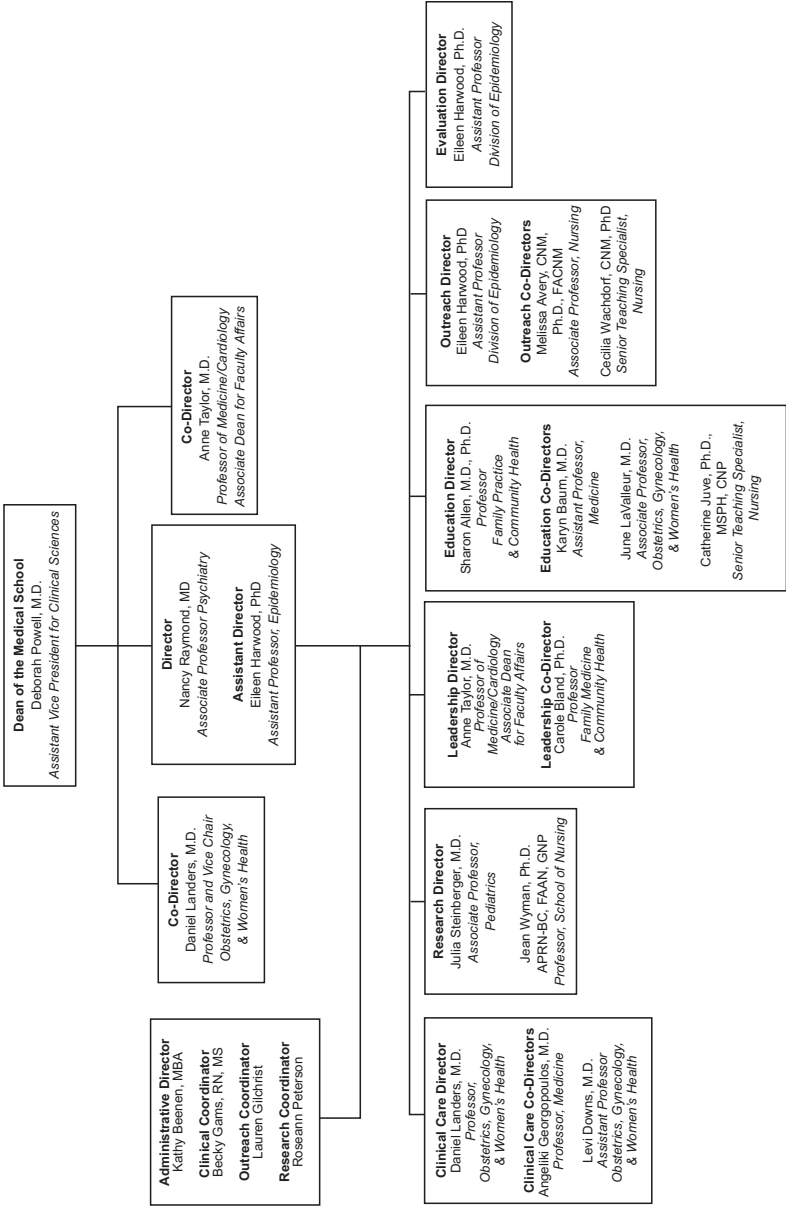
University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoE) is administratively located in the Medical School. The faculty and staff associated with the CoE work with a number of schools, departments and institutes at the University of Minnesota. The CoE is often a catalyst for collaborative work and transfer of knowledge among the schools and departments. Examples of these collaborations include:

- ***Medical School.*** The CoE is part of Medical School Administration and the CoE Director reports to both her department head (Psychiatry) and the Dean of the Medical School. CoE component directors and committee members are based in departments including: Family Medicine and Community Health, Psychiatry, Obstetrics, Gynecology and Women's Health, Medicine (Cardiology, Endocrinology, General Internal, Rheumatology) Pediatrics and Adolescent Health, Neurology and Surgery. The CoE works with the Center for Spirituality and Healing and the Cancer Center
- ***School of Nursing.*** School of Nursing faculty are co-directors of the Professional Education, Research and Community Outreach Components. Faculty have presented at CoE lectures for the public and the Academic Health Center. School of Nursing faculty and students have participated in community outreach events and research conferences.
- ***School of Pharmacy.*** Faculty are active in the Research Component and professional education opportunities.
- ***School of Public Health.*** A faculty member from the Division of Epidemiology is Assistant Director of the CoE and faculty and students work closely with the CoE on evaluation and public health projects.
- ***School of Dentistry.*** Faculty and the Dean have participated in educational opportunities on women in academic leadership and with the interprofessional education task force.
- ***School of Veterinary Medicine.*** Faculty have participated and presented at the CoE's Annual Women's Health Research Conference.

- *College of Agricultural, Food and Environmental Sciences.*
The Department of Food Science and Nutrition participates with the CoE on projects related to girls' and women's health and obesity prevention.
- *Law School.* The Law School has collaborated with the CoE to provide professional education opportunities related to health, law and ethics.

University of Minnesota
National Center of Excellence in Women's Health



University of Mississippi

The CoE at the University of Mississippi Medical Center is administratively under the Office of the Vice Chancellor of the University of Mississippi Medical Center. The CoE Director reports directly to the Vice Chancellor, who also serves as the Dean of the School of Medicine. The CoE faculty includes representation from each school on campus: School of Dentistry, School of Graduate Studies, School of Health Related Sciences, School of Medicine, School of Nursing, and the School of Pharmacy. The Internal Advisory Board includes leadership from the Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing and Medicine. The organization of the CoE reflects true integration of multiple disciplines, and helps to ensure facilitated cross-collaboration in all CoE activities.

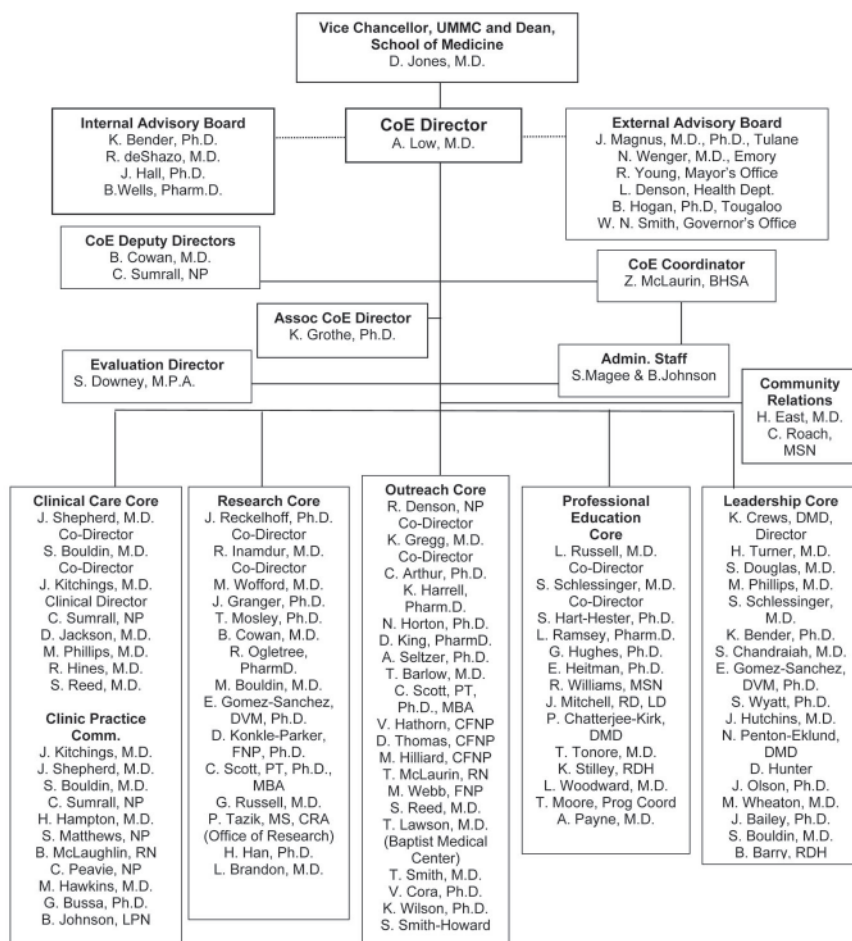
In the area of clinical care, patient education and outreach activities, the CoE collaborates with the Departments of Family Medicine, Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology and Psychiatry, School of Nursing, and the University Hospital and Clinics. In the area of research, the CoE works with faculty from both basic and clinical sciences, as well as the institution's Office of Research.

Active partnership with the Delta Diabetes Project of the Delta Health Alliance provides not only community outreach opportunities for patient education, but also community-based research potential in the Mississippi Delta counties. Other collaborative partnerships in community outreach activities include:

- Faith-based organizations (such as Jackson Revival Center, through Outreach Core co-director Ruby Denson) to provide health screenings and education at community events
- Mississippi Nurses Foundation – the CoE works with the Foundation in planning the annual Women's Health Conference.
- Women's Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Jackson funds a patient education video project.
- Junior League of Jackson will work with the CoE on the project "Powerful Bodies: Powerful Minds" to address healthy nutrition and physical activity for school children.
- Mayor of Canton, Mississippi supports our CoE mission in providing health information to women. The CoE has reached thousands of women by the physical presence at the biannual Canton Flea Market.

Through the leadership initiatives of the CoE, the formal establishment of the Women's Affairs Committee for the institution was made possible. The CoE Leadership core includes representation of senior and junior faculty members from across the campus, to address leadership development and mentorship needs at UMMC.

University of Mississippi National Center of Excellence in Women's Health



University of Missouri, Kansas City

The UMKC/TMC Center of Excellence is administratively located within the UMKC School of Medicine under the directorship of Dr. Richard Derman, Schutte Chair and Associate Dean for Women's Health. The Women's Health and Wellness Center, located within Truman Medical Centers, serves as the clinical care center for the COE. Additionally, there is a unique environment at UMKC that enhances academic collaboration. The schools of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry and Pharmacy have close working relationships that will continue to provide programs and research dedicated to improving health care for women.

There are currently several successful outreach programs geared specifically toward underserved populations. They are:

- Truman Medical Centers StartRight Teen MOMS program which offers one-to-one mentoring as well as life skills training to pregnant and postpartum teens.
- WEN (Women's Employment Network) Project serves women, 18 years-of-age and older, with barriers to employment. UMKC graduate nursing students serve as health coaches, working on a one-to-one basis with 100 women for a year. Clients' goals include self-directed health plans, access to health care, improved health outcomes and literacy. The nursing students experience firsthand the impact of health disparities on women and their families.

New initiatives:

- Purchasing of a van to enable community outreach, education and screening services in various communities throughout Kansas City and Jackson County, Missouri.
- Planning a Women's Resource Center (without walls).
- Developing a Women's Heart Wise Program with extensive outreach and education.

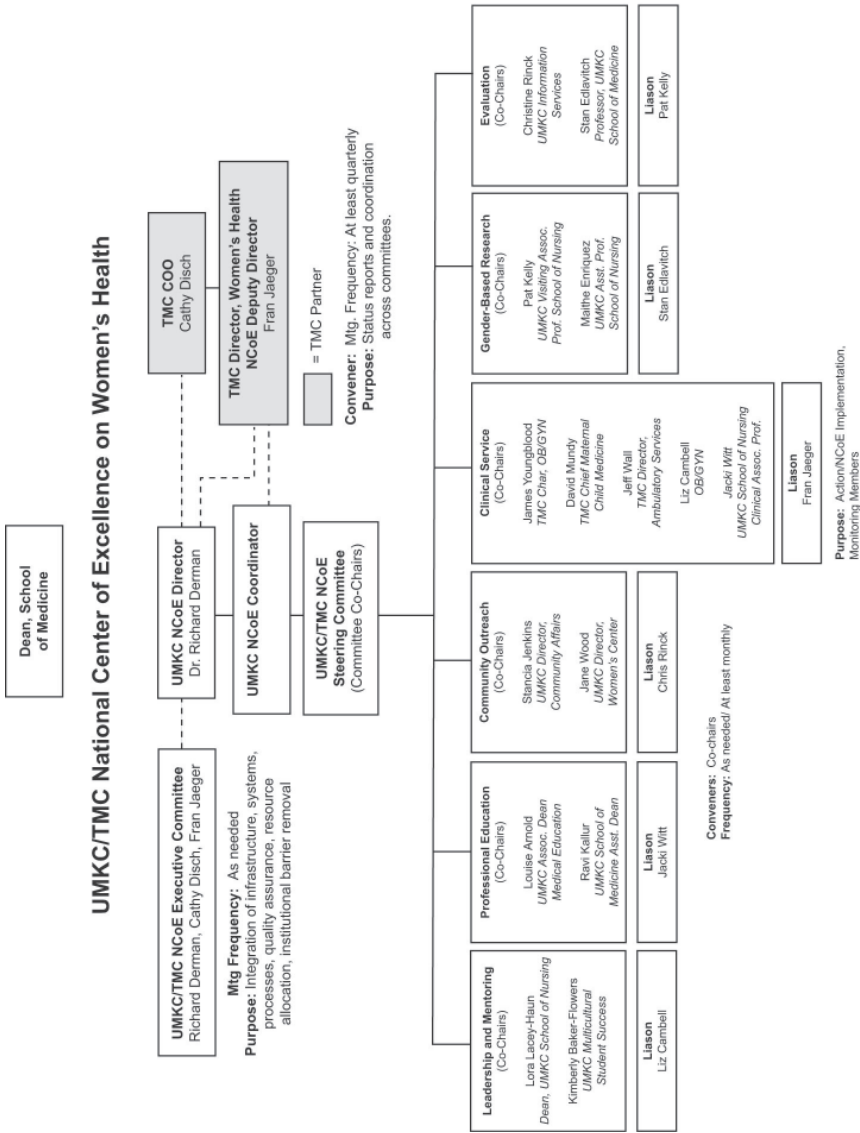
To increase interdisciplinary gender-based research across the UMKC and TMC campuses, groups have been formed for collaborative projects such as the Gendered Perspective on Obesity, the development of a relationship with Jewish Vocational Services Refugee Programs, learning about health issues of Somali and Bantu women.

A breastfeeding Attitudes Study is currently being conducted at Truman Medical Centers' Women's Health and Wellness Center. Findings from this study will be used to develop a proposal for an intervention study designed to enhance breastfeeding practice among women in the Kansas City community. The study may parallel the potential NICHD international protocol to enhance exclusive breast feeding.

Mentoring and preparing younger students about future careers in health sciences is the strategy of the Saturday Academy. Conducted by the Office of Cultural Enhancement and Diversity for the UMKC School of Medicine, the Saturday Academy is a rigorous academic preparation course for middle school minority youth interested in attending medical school.

Through a coordinated effort with the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry and Pharmacy a comprehensive inventory of curricula was collected to increase multidisciplinary content in women's health issues at UMKC. A review of the data produced the following conclusions/actions:

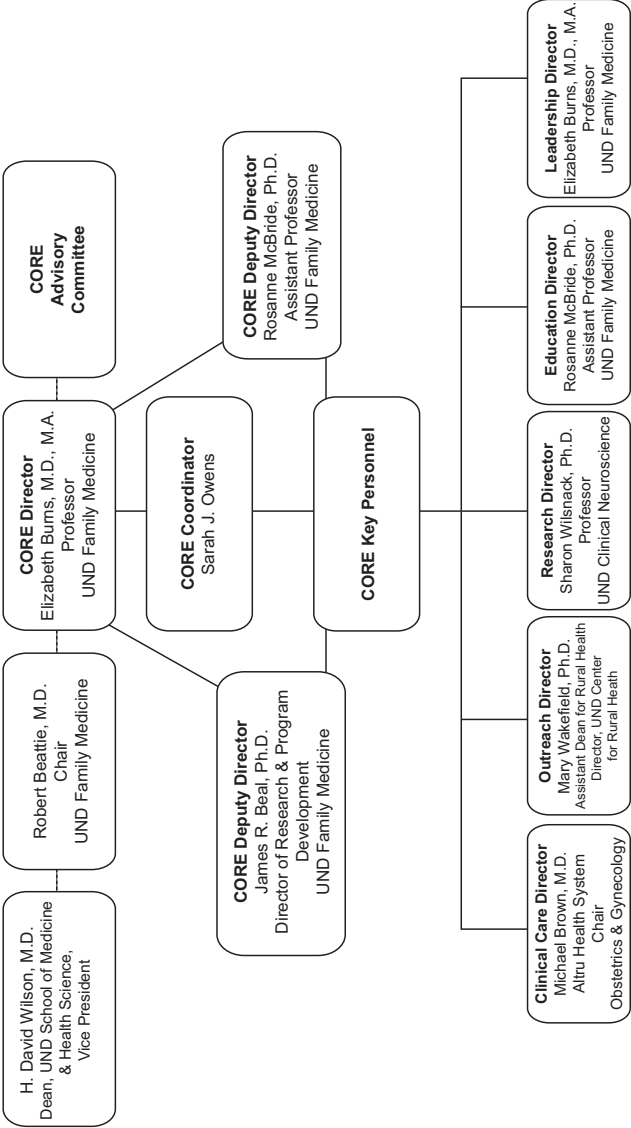
- There are enough courses currently being offered to form an undergraduate certificate in Women's Health. The Director of Women's and Gender Studies is moving forward with the development of this certificate.
- A new academic service learning course entitled, "Woman and Aging," has been approved and will be offered in the 2005-2006 academic year to all undergraduates.
- An interdisciplinary course "Women and Violence" has been developed through the schools of medicine, nursing, social work and law. It will be offered in spring 2006 as a weekend course, available for 1 credit hour of undergraduate credit.



University of North Dakota Region VIII Demonstration Project

North Dakota Women's Health CORE: A National Center of Excellence in Women's Health Region VIII Demonstration Project is located in the UND School of Medicine & Health Science's Department of Family Medicine and is working in cooperation with Altru Health System (Clinical Care Center is located in the Altru Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic). This Demonstration Project is comprised of a number of academic departments/colleges (Family Medicine, Nursing, Neurology, Pathology, Physician Assistant, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Center for Rural Health, Rural Assistance Center, Wellness Center, Indians into Medicine, Office of Medical Education), along with a number of state and local agencies (Valley Community Health, Community Violence Intervention Center, North Dakota Department of Health). Through this collaboration we have been able to establish a network of women's health professionals that are dedicated to reaching the goal of a health care system that ties together clinical care, outreach, research, education, and leadership in order to improve the health status of all women across the lifespan.

North Dakota Women's Health CORE: A National Center of Excellence in Women's Health Region VIII Demonstration Project
University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences



Oregon Health & Sciences University

The OHSU Center of Excellence in Women's Health (OHSU CoE) is part of Oregon Health & Science University. The OHSU CoE contains 5 key components. Evaluation of CoE activities occurs within and between the components.

1. Clinical - The Center for Women's Health serves as the clinical care center of the OHSU CoE, providing state-of-the-art comprehensive and integrated health care services. The CWH is recognized at OHSU as a progressive clinical site which has moved beyond traditional in-patient/out-patient academic medical center models to become a patient-centered, woman friendly environment addressing the multiple needs women perceive to be necessary to maintain and improve their own health care.

2. Research - The OHSU CoE encourages multidisciplinary research focused on women's health issues. Our research areas include:

- **Basic Science:** OHSU has a broad spectrum of basic science research with applications in women's health, including National Institute of Health (NIH) funded and foundation-supported projects.
- **Clinical:** OHSU's efforts in clinical research range from translation from the lab to the bedside (including clinical trials), to addressing existing and emerging trends in women's health (including population-based studies).
- **Health Services:** OHSU has a well-established health services research agenda in women's health, including evidence-based obstetrics, long and short term consequences of childbirth, child-birth decisionmaking, patient safety in obstetrics and vaginal birth after cesarean.

3. Community Outreach and Education - The OHSU CoE works to empower women of all ages to take greater ownership of their health and the health of their families.

4. Professional Education - The OHSU CoE's efforts center on integrating a women's health focus into the medical school curriculum.

5. Leadership - The OHSU CoE supports the recruitment, retention, and promotion of women in academic medical careers. These efforts include joint activities with the School of Medicine Dean's Office.

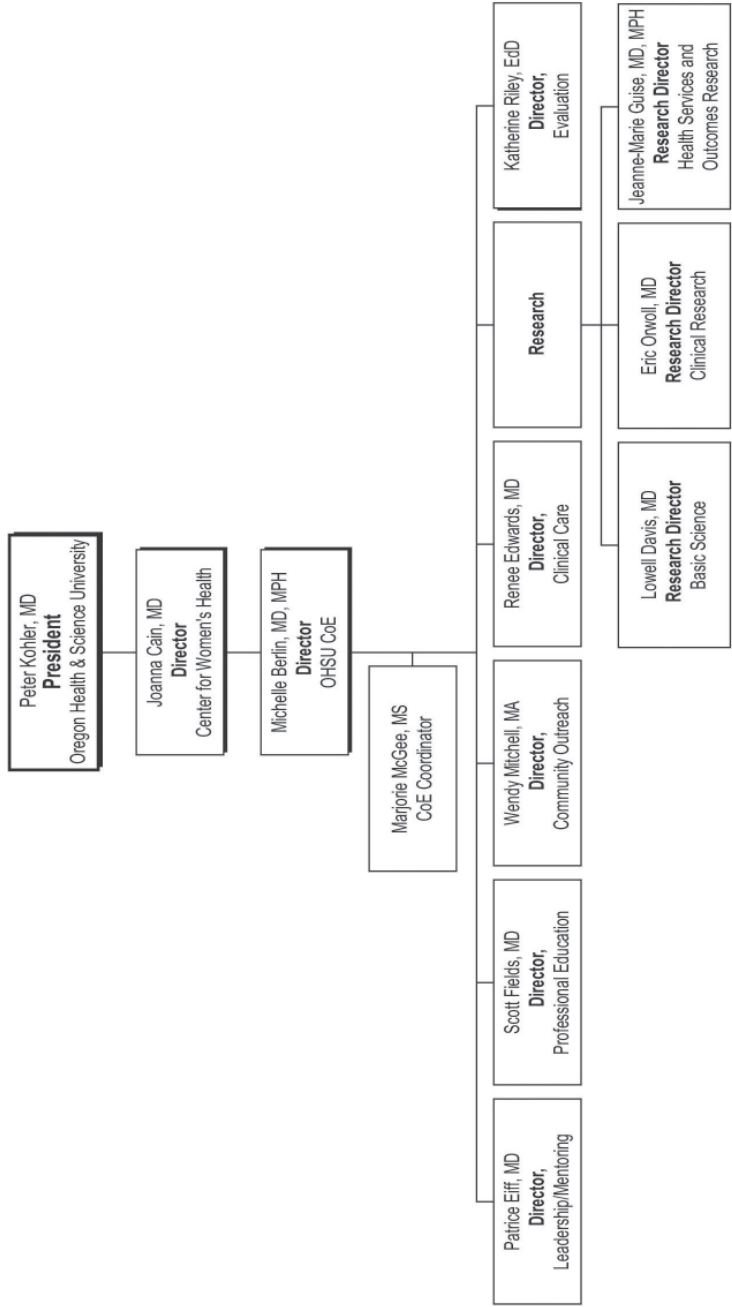
Areas of particular interest include:

- Translating the results of clinical research to colleagues, policymakers, the media and the public: Understanding the results of studies is a stumbling block for many. While study results can be complex, some defined rules can make that process more accessible. These rules, derived from accepted techniques and criteria from evidence-based medicine, can be understood by a wide variety of audiences.
- Health disparities and health outcomes of women with disabilities: People with disabilities are more than twice as likely as people without disabilities to go without needed health care. Reasons for this are not clear and require further study. At OHSU we are: (1) examining studies on health outcomes of women with disabilities, (2) learning from women with disabilities about their health promotion needs and barriers, and (3) collaborating with state and county public health and others to raise awareness of the need for health promotion specifically targeted to women with disabilities.
- Promoting community-based participatory research (CBPR) in women's health: We have developed a Bulletin Board that is a tool for community members, researchers, and others to find information relating to women's health. The Bulletin Board has three parts—Events & Announcements, Funding Opportunities, and Resources. Our goal is to promote research in women's health by community-based organizations and researchers both within and outside of academia.
- Rural women's health: Oregon is diverse both in geography and demographics, ranging from industrial to agrarian regions and from fishing-based to high-tech economies. There are 36 counties; most are rural, 15 of which are designated as frontier. We are working to expand rural health care education, and understand the unique health care needs and barriers for women living outside of Oregon's metropolitan areas.

In addition to collaboration between Departments, Schools and Centers within each of the key components, collaboration is ongoing with other academic institutions, state and local agencies, and community-based organizations. These include:

- State of Oregon DHS Health Services: Office of Family Health, Oregon Partnership for Cancer Control, Multicultural Health Office, and the Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.
- Oregon Cancer Institute-Office of Multicultural Affairs (OHSU)
- Center on Community Accessibility, Oregon Office on Health and Disability (OHSU)
- Center for Diversity & Multicultural Affairs (OHSU)
- Center for Health Disparities Research (OHSU)
- Portland State University-Regional Research Institute
- Susannah Maria Gurule Foundation (Latino Health Foundation)
- Northwest Health Foundation
- Multnomah County Health Department

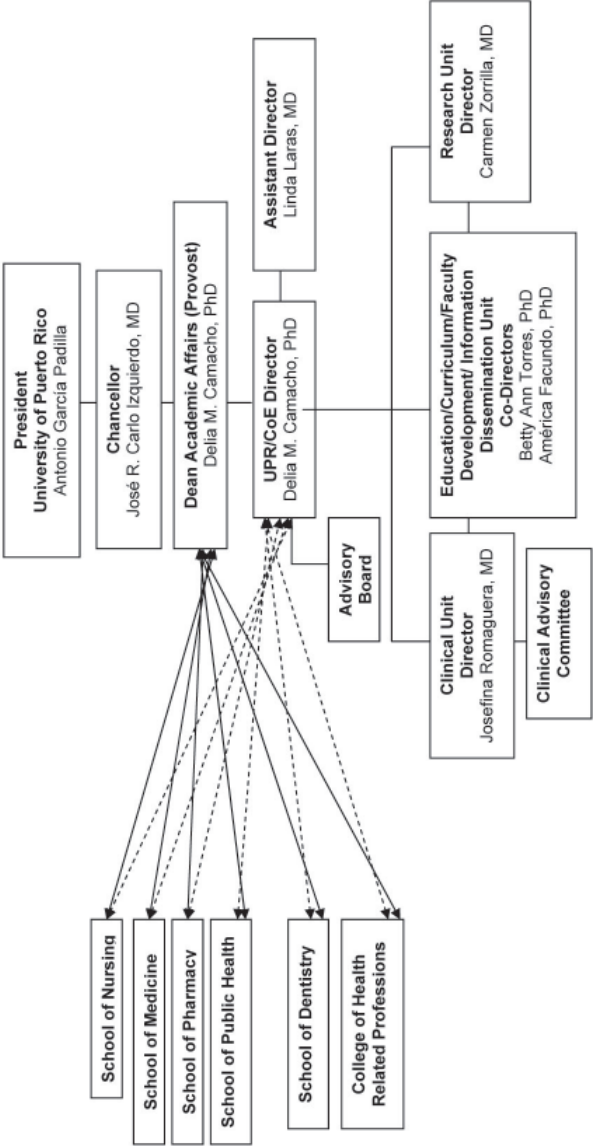
Oregon Health & Science University
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN WOMEN'S HEALTH (revised 3/05)



University of Puerto Rico (UPR)

The CoE University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus (UPR MSC) is administratively under the campus Dean for Academic Affairs (Provost). This has facilitated establishing linkage and collaboration with all six schools (School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, Graduate School of Public Health, School of Pharmacy, School of Nursing, and the College of Health Related Professions) that comprise the MSC and has promoted the uniqueness of the UPR CoE model as a multi and interdisciplinary model-based approach, as opposed to an exclusive clinical/medical environment. The UPR MSC CoE model is structured in four principal components: Clinical, Research, Education/Information Dissemination/Professional Development and Leadership (EIPLC), and the administrative component. The CoE's physical facilities are accessible to students, faculty, employees, and the general community visiting the Campus. The uniqueness of the UPR CoE model is that its approach is multidisciplinary and based on the Campus' strong public health tradition with a variety of available resources, and community alliances. Most of the CoE's information dissemination and educational activities are conducted through collaboration and linkages with other programs and organizations.

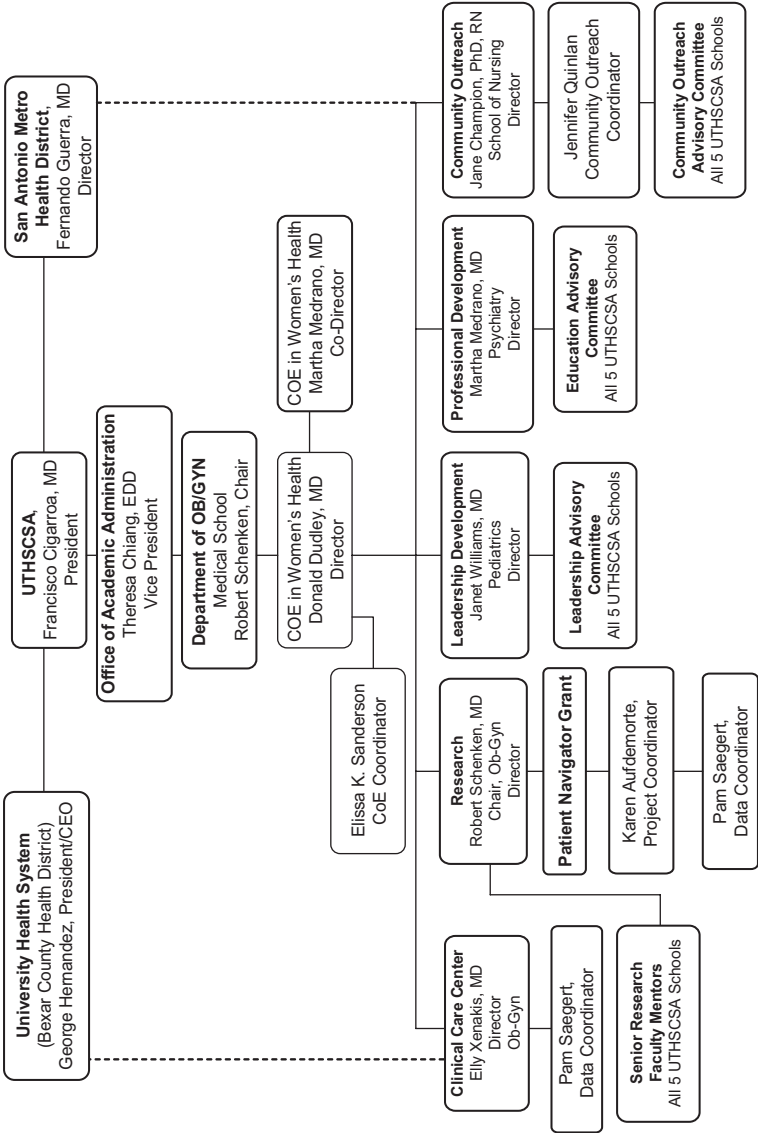
*University of Puerto Rico
National Center of Excellence in Women's Health*



University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio

The UTHSCSA CoE is based in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the Medical School, but its collaboration and partnership ties cross five schools and two public health safety net systems. Faculty from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, the Allied Health School, the Nursing School and the Dental School are involved in CoE activities. The CoE has a strong partnership with the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (SAMHD) which is the city health department, as well as with the Bexar County Hospital District, doing business as University Hospital System (UHS). SAMHD participates in the community outreach and evaluation components. UHS is intimately involved in all aspects of CoE clinical care services, as its ambulatory care center houses the CoE clinic. The creation of an external advisory committee and the establishment of a new reporting structure, which places the CoE under the oversight of the Office of Academic Administration, highlight the multidisciplinary stature of the CoE.

UTHSCSA National Center of Excellence in Women's Health ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

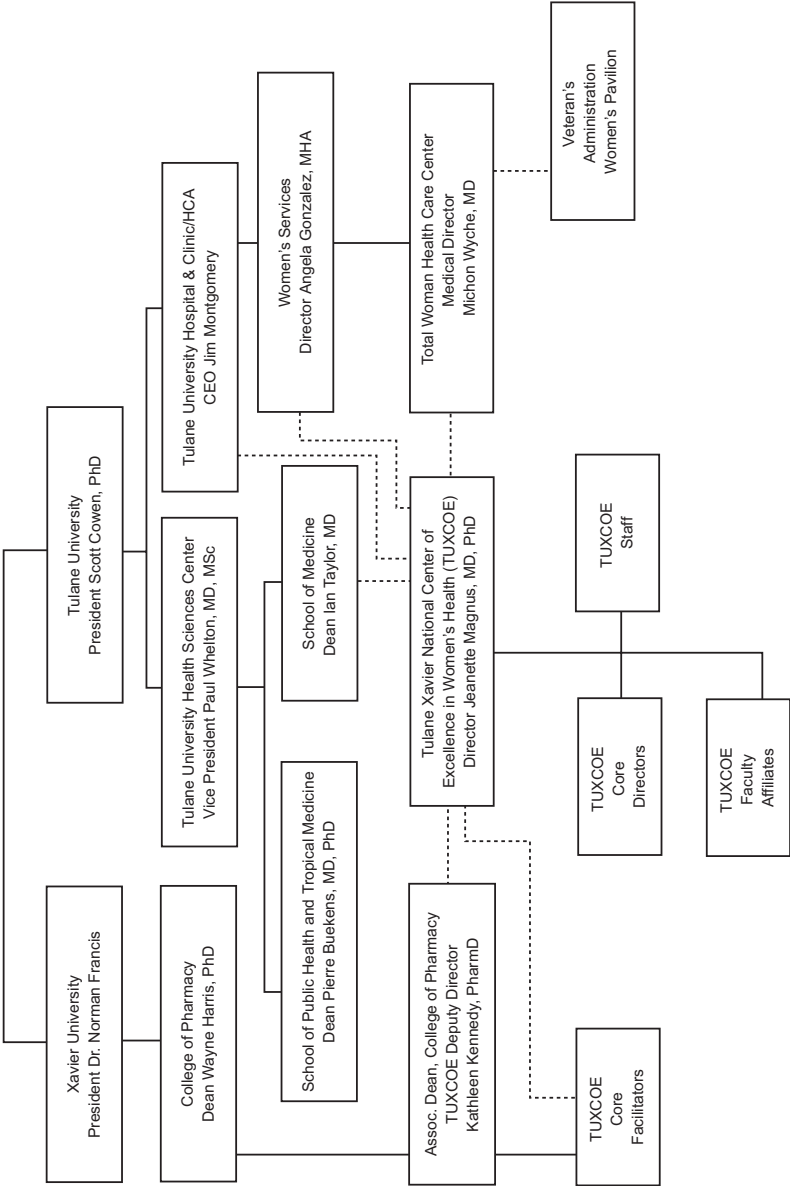


Tulane and Xavier Universities of Louisiana

Directed by Jeanette Magnus, MD, PhD, the Center was designated as a National Center of Excellence in Women's Health by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Women's Health, in 1998. The Women's Center is a collaborative effort between Tulane University Health Sciences Center, Tulane University Hospital & Clinic and Xavier University, College of Pharmacy. The Center incorporates the clinical, academic, and educational missions of these institutions into a community network and partnership.

The mission of the Tulane Xavier CoE is to facilitate access to health care services, to foster an interdisciplinary research agenda, to promote a women's health curriculum in conjunction with education, training, and leadership of women in the health professions, and to advance knowledge of women's health issues in the community. Currently, 16 core faculty (50% minority, 81% female), staff (50% minority), and students (40% minority) carry out Tulane Xavier CoE programs and activities. More than 95 faculty members have joined as CoE affiliates.

TulaneXavier National Center of Excellence in Women's Health



University of Utah

Region VIII Demonstration Project

The University of Utah Health Sciences Center (UUHSC) serves the people of the State of Utah and is the major academic health center near other states including Montana, Idaho, and Wyoming. In addition, the UUHSC serves women from Nevada and Western Colorado. The Center of Excellence in Women's Health Demonstration Project, University of Utah was begun September 30, 2005. Since its beginning, the UUHSC has been meeting weekly/bi-weekly with all of their working group leaders.

The UUHSC group [Kathleen Digre MD (Director), Yvette LaCoursiere MD (Co-Director), Michael Varner MD, Patricia Murphy CNM, DrPH, FACNM, Lynne Durrant PhD, Jennifer VanHorn MD, Leissa Roberts MS, CNM, Leanne Johnston (Coordinator), Sally Patrick,] are representing the School of Medicine, Colleges of Nursing and Health, along with the Eccles Health Sciences Library and makes up the Executive Committee. The UUHSC is striving to bring a diverse group of faculty crossing many disciplines (School of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Health, College of Pharmacy, information specialists from the Eccles Health Sciences Library) collaborating to build a CoE at the University of Utah. The UUHSC is stressing outreach to the underserved at the South Main Clinic, as well as "one-stop shopping" for women's health, and "connecting women to wellness" where possible. The UUHSC believes the idea of a CoE embodies many of the goals of the Health Sciences Center as well as the University of Utah.

All of the Working groups have members of each School or College (medicine, nursing, health, pharmacy). In addition, the UUHSC has reached out to the Main campus and the UUHSC representatives from the Women's Resource Center of the University of Utah, College of Social Work, Dept of Sociology, College of Engineering. The research working group and the outreach working group also have members from the Utah State Department of Health.

The goal of the UUHSC CoE is to have participation of all of the schools within the Health Sciences in each project in some way, and the UUHSC looks forward to working to make University of Utah truly a Center of Excellence in Women's Health.

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    SVPS[SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR HEALTH SCIENCES  
Lorris Betz, MD, PhD]
    SVPS --- CDEP[CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT DIRECTOR  
Kathleen Digre, MD]
    SVPS --- CDEP_CO[CENTER OF EXCELLENCE  
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT CO-DIRECTOR  
Yvette LaCoursiere, MD, MPH]
    
    CDEP --- SOM[SOM]
    CDEP --- Nursing[Nursing]
    CDEP --- COH[COH]
    CDEP --- EHSL[EHSL]
    
    CDEP_CO --- PublicHealth[Public Health]
    CDEP_CO --- Arts[Arts & Sciences]
    CDEP_CO --- Business[Business]
    CDEP_CO --- SocialWork[Social Work]
    CDEP_CO --- Informatics[Informatics & Media]
    CDEP_CO --- Law[Law]
    
    CDEP_CO --- ADV[ADVISORY GROUP  
To be determined]
    CDEP_CO --- EHL[ECCLES HEALTH SCIENCE LIBRARY  
Nancy Lombardo and Sally Patrick]
    CDEP_CO --- ACC[ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE  
(Director, Co-Director, Coordinator and CoE key personnel)]
    
    CDEP_CO --- CMH[COMMITTEE FOR MINORITY WOMEN'S HEALTH  
Sean Esplin, MD and Lillian Tom-Orme, Karen Dace]
    
    CDEP_CO --- LPPD[LEADERSHIP/ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
Kathleen Digre, MD]
    CDEP_CO --- RC[RESEARCH COMMITTEE  
Patricia Murphy, CNM, DPH]
    CDEP_CO --- COPE[COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Yvette LaCoursiere, MD, MPH]
    CDEP_CO --- CPE[CURRICULUM/ PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Lynn Durrant, PhD  
Kitty Jones]
    CDEP_CO --- CSS[CLINICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
Jennifer vanHorn, MD  
Leissa Roberts MS, CNM]
    CDEP_CO --- EC[EVALUATION COMMITTEE  
Michael Varner, MD]
  
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Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)

The VCU Institute for Women's Health, Center of Excellence, is based within the School of Medicine. CoE Directors come together from the School of Medicine's Office of Faculty Development and Departments of Psychiatry, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Preventive Medicine; the School of Nursing; the School of Pharmacy; the College of Humanities and Sciences' Department of Psychology; the Office of Research; and Department of Community Outreach.

In the area of interdisciplinary research, the CoE has collaborative relationships with the Massey Cancer Center Institute for Drug and Alcohol Studies; Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Dentistry, and Social Work; College of Humanities and Sciences'; and the HIV/AIDS Center.

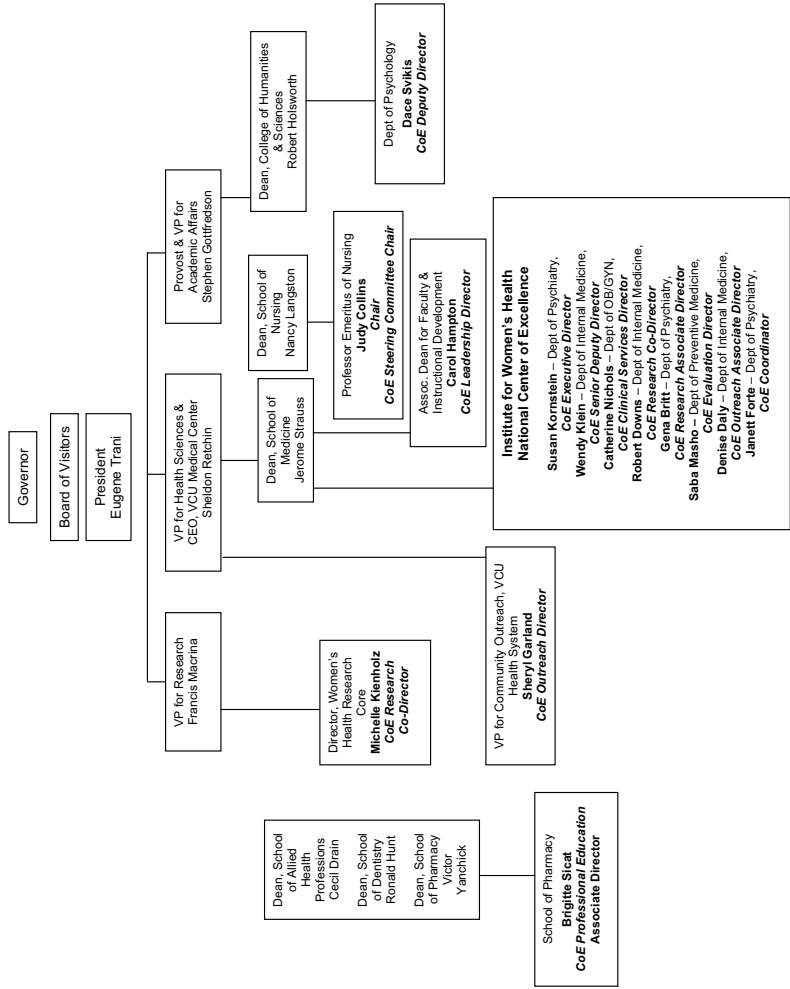
Leadership and mentoring initiatives are promoted through the Women in Science, Dentistry, & Medicine organization, which includes the active involvement of members in all representative departments and schools. The Committee on the Status of Women and Minorities provides leadership and guidance regarding the progress of women and minorities in achievement of their full potential within the School of Medicine.

The CoE's initiatives in professional education are largely based in the School of Medicine's Department of Internal Medicine, which offers the Women's Health Residency Track. Other collaborations include the School of Nursing, School of Dentistry, School of Pharmacy, School of Social Work, and the College of Humanities and Sciences' Departments of African American Studies, Women's Studies, Sociology, and Psychology.

The Vice President for Community Outreach at the VCU Health Systems directs the CoE community outreach component, providing links to numerous partnerships in the Richmond area, with particular emphasis on Latina and African American women. Several initiatives in domestic and sexual violence also involve the collaboration of the VCU Health System's Forensic Nurse Examiners, School of Social Work, School of Dentistry, and College of Humanities and Sciences' Department of Sociology. Collaborations with VCU Libraries focus on consumer health information and education through the Women's Health Resource Center and other health literacy initiatives.

Clinical care is provided at the Women's Health Clinic at Stony Point, which serves as the CoE's comprehensive clinical center, and at the Women's Surgical Wing of MCV Hospital.

Virginia Commonwealth University
Institute for Women's Health, Center of Excellence



West Virginia University

West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences is proud to be one of 23 nationally-designated Centers of Excellence in Women's Health. This designation is awarded by the US Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Office on Women's Health.

The West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences National Center of Excellence in Women's Health (CoE) will provide comprehensive health care for women, promote research in women's health issues, educate our new generation of health care providers to understand and treat women's special health care needs, develop future women leaders in academic health care, and reach out to improve the health and well-being of West Virginia women... and ultimately all West Virginians.

The CoE model includes a comprehensive, coordinated and integrated women-centered program in five key areas (components):

1. Community Outreach
2. Leadership development and mentoring
3. Professional education (especially incorporating allied health professionals)
4. Clinical Care
5. Gender-based research

West Virginia University's (WVU) Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center is in a unique position to reverse the bleak statistics of West Virginian women's health status. West Virginia ranks 48/51 of the fifty states and DC. WVU has proximity to the rural underserved population, leadership, the history of strong community partnerships, and the visibility to make a state-wide difference as the flagship teaching, research, and clinical education institution.

West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences wishes to use this national designation to help work towards the 26 health promotion focused goals of the WV Healthy People 2010. We propose to create a statewide infrastructure that is community driven, and we intend to promote positive lifestyle changes at the individual, community and state-wide level.

Our Vision

West Virginia University will be one of the top 25 providers of women's health in the United States. West Virginia University will improve the health of the women of West Virginia and ultimately all West Virginians. The West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Science National Center of Excellence in Women's Health will provide holistic (physical, spiritual and mental) health care to the women of West Virginia. West Virginia University will be the number one resource to women and all leaders in health care in the State of West Virginia.

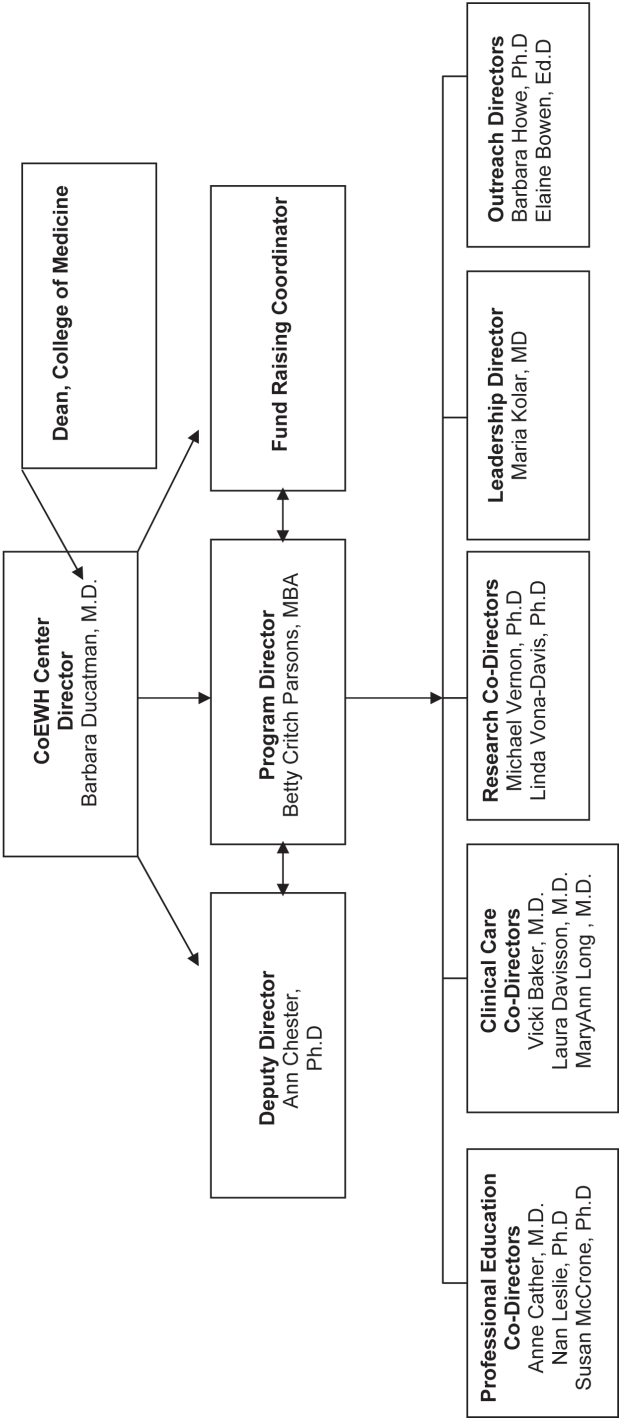
Our Mission

The CoEWH will improve the well-being of all women across the lifespan through education, research, clinical care, community partnerships and promotion of leadership by women in academic health professions.

Our goals

- To bring the National Designation to communities across the State to help focus attention and direct resources to improve the health and well-being of all West Virginians by leading women to healthy living: 1) by enhancing women's knowledge about their health and ways to improve; and 2) by inspiring women to improve their health and the health of their families through enhanced physical activities, nutrition and motivational outreach activities.
- To establish distinct geographic locations for both the hub and the community women's health care satellites. (WVU, Marshall, Osteopathic School, etc.) with the purpose of establishing a reciprocating relationship between a central CoEWH hub and the community sites to maximize women's health care, wellness foci, and policy evolution.
- To be among the top women's rural health care education institutions in the country in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Health.
- To increase the numbers of health care providers across the state primarily in rural areas.
- To occupy distinct clinic space for CoEWH health clinics.
- To do these things through meeting the goals of the National Centers of Excellence through outreach, training, research, leadership development and clinical integration.

West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center
National Center of Excellence in Women's Health



University of Wisconsin (UW)

The UW CoE has substantive interactions with 9 of the 13 schools and colleges that comprise the UW-Madison campus. The specific relationships are delineated below:

School of Medicine and Public Health. The CoE is administratively based in the SMPH and the CoE Center Director reports to the Dean. Within the Medical School, the CoE involves faculty from 6 departments: Medicine (Geriatrics, General Internal Medicine, Endocrinology, Oncology, Rheumatology), Ob/Gyn, Psychiatry, Pediatrics, Population Health, and Medical History and Ethics.

School of Nursing. The members of the School of Nursing faculty continue to be core members of the CoE.

School of Pharmacy. Members of the faculty of the School of Pharmacy sit on the Advisory Committees of several programs administered by the CoE, including its Women's Health and Aging Clinical Scientist Development Program. The CoE Center Director supervises pharmacy residents in the VA Women's Health Clinic (a CoE satellite) and within that clinic, co-directs the VA Osteoporosis Clinic with a faculty member in the School of Pharmacy. The recently established Training and Education to Advance Multidisciplinary Clinical Research (TEAM) Program (K12) is housed in Rennebohm Hall.

School of Social Work. Faculty members in the School of Social Work serve as research faculty on two training grants administered through the CoE. Clinical Social Work faculty members work in the CoE satellite clinic at the VA Hospital.

School of Veterinary Medicine. Faculty members in the School of Veterinary Medicine are also core members of the CoE and co-investigators with the CoE Director on two training grants.

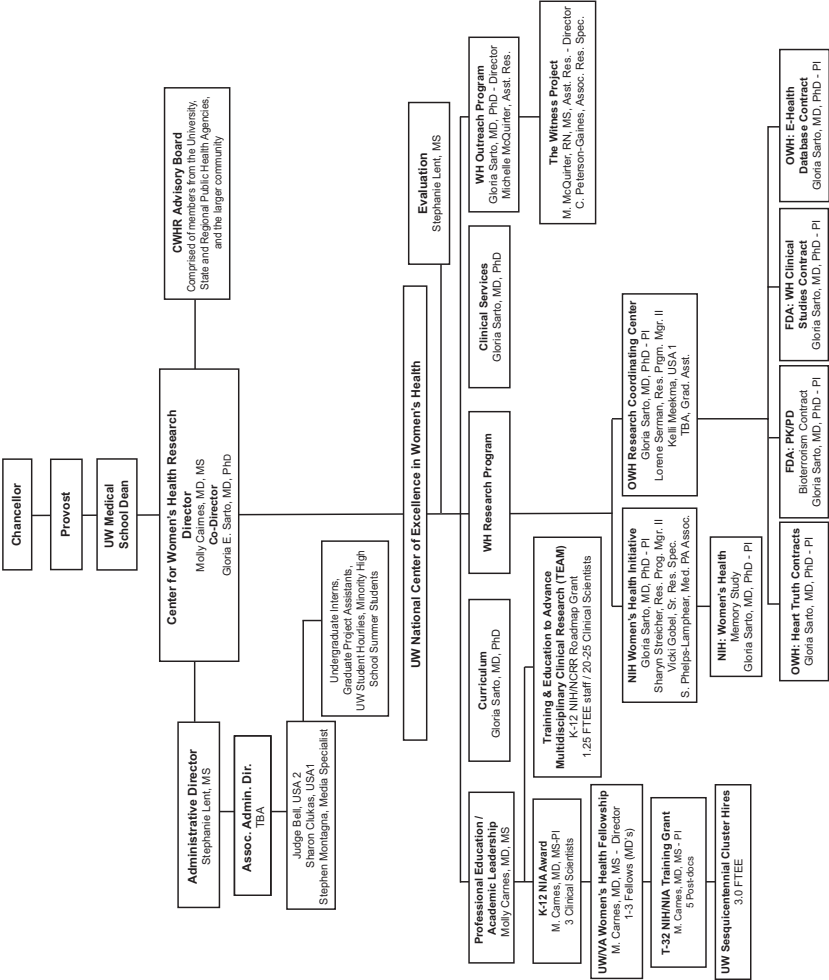
College of Engineering. The College of Engineering donates space for the Women In Science and Engineering Leadership Institute (WISELI) which is directed by the CoE Center Director and intersects substantively with the CoE.

College of Letters and Sciences. Faculty members from the Women's Studies Program, which is in the College of Letters and Sciences, serve on the CoE Advisory Committee. Faculty members from Sociology, Psychology, and English also collaborate with the CoE on training grants or research initiatives.

College of Agriculture and Life Science (CALS). Faculty members from CALS collaborate with the CoE on the Women in Science & Engineering Leadership Institute (WISELI) initiative.

Business School. Faculty members from the Business School serve as members of the core CoE faculty and as statistical consultants on training grants administered by the CoE.

University of Wisconsin-Madison



NATIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

April 2006

University of Arizona, Phone: 520-694-6010

Internet: www.arizona.edu

Boston University Medical Center, Phone: 617-638-7428 or 9563

Internet: www.bmc.org

Brown University, Phone: 401-274-1100

Internet : www.womenshealthri.org

University of California, Los Angeles, Phone: 800-825-2631

Internet: www.med.ucla.edu

University of California, San Francisco, Phone: 415-353-2668

Internet: www.ucsf.edu/coe

Drexel University College of Medicine, Phone: 215-762-5181

Internet: www.drexelmed.edu/med

Harvard University, Phone: 617-732-8866

Internet: www.hmcnet.harvard.edu/coe

University of Illinois at Chicago, Phone: 312-842-1002

Internet: www.uic.edu/orgs/womenshealth/index.html

Indiana University School of Medicine, Phone: 317-630-2243

Internet: www.iupui.edu/~womenhlt

Magee-Women's Hospital, Phone: 412-641-4747

Internet: www.magee.edu/coe/homepage/home.html

University of Minnesota, Phone: 612-626-3444

Internet: www.umn.edu

University of Mississippi, Phone: 601-815-3280

Internet: www.olemiss.edu

University of Missouri, Kansas City, Phone: 816-404-5165
Internet: www.umkc.edu

University of North Dakota, Phone: 701-780-6616
Internet: www.und.edu

Oregon Health & Sciences University, Phone: 503-494-4480
Internet: www.ohsuwomenshealth.com/coe

University of Puerto Rico, Phone: 787-758-2525x1368
Internet: <http://whcpr.rcm.upr.edu>

University of South Dakota, Phone: 605-357-1500
Internet: www.usd.edu

University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio,
Phone: 210-567-5035
Internet: www.uthscsa.edu

Tulane University and Xavier University of Louisiana,
Phone: 504-988-6269
Internet: www.tuxcoe.tulane.edu

University of Utah, Phone: 801-587-2111
Internet: www.utah.edu

Virginia Commonwealth University, Phone: 804-327-8843
Internet: www.womenshealth.vcu.edu or
<http://women'shealthvcu.edu>

West Virginia University, Phone: 304-598-4880
Internet: www.wvu.edu

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Phone: 608-267-5566
Internet: www.womenshealth.wisc.edu

OFFICE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NATIONAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE
IN WOMEN'S HEALTH

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